

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 11-26 are currently pending, wherein claims 1, 5, and 8 have been amended and claims 11-26 have previously been withdrawn from consideration. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and entry of the above-identified amendment in view of the remarks presented herein below.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action (“Action”), the Examiner rejects claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,055,899 to Wakai et al. (“Wakai”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In order to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), the cited reference must teach each and every claimed element. In the present case, claims 1-9 are not anticipated by Wakai because Wakai fails to disclose each and every claimed element as discussed below.

Independent claim 1 defines a liquid crystal display device. The device includes, *inter alia*, a first conductive layer on a substrate; a first insulating layer on the first conductive layer, the first insulating layer having a contact hole exposing a portion of the first conductive layer; a semiconductor layer on the first insulating layer; a second insulating layer on the third conductive layer, the second insulating layer having a first contact hole exposing a portion of the third conductive layer, and a second contact hole exposing the portion of the first conductive exposed by the first insulating layer; a fourth conductive layer on the second insulating layer and electrically contacting the third conductive layer; and a fifth conductive layer on the second insulating layer and electrically contacting the first conductive layer through the second contact hole; and a sixth conductive layer between the exposed portion of the third conductive layer and the fourth conductive layer, and between the first conductive layer and the fifth conductive layer.

Wakai discloses an inverted staggered thin film transistor (TFT) having a pixel electrode. However, nowhere in Wakai is there any disclosure of a sixth conductive layer between the exposed portion of the third conductive layer and the fourth conductive layer, *and* between the first conductive layer and the fifth conductive layer. Accordingly, independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Wakai.

Claims 2-9 variously depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, claims 2-9 are patentably distinguishable over Wakai for at least those reasons presented above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

The application is in condition for allowance. Notice of same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner find the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required

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under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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